herever any abnormal prices increase is noticed, necessary action is taken. The manufacturer is impressed upon in such cases to bring down the price voluntarily failing which, if justified, action is initiated under para 10(b) of the DPCO, 1995. This is an ongoing process.

The NPPA has also stepped up enforcement activities and a separate enforcement division has been started which purchases medicines from the market to check that prices fixed by NPPA are implemented. No such information has been brought to the notice of NPPA regarding charging of exorbitant prices of drugs and formulations without any control/check by pharmaceutical companies.

DAP supply to U.P. and Bihar

†1279. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of DAP as requisitioned by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, respectively;

(b) what is the quantity of DAP released to these States as against their respective demand;

(c) whether a separate package increasing the quantity of DAP for the States of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has been given for the 'rabi' crop in view of the failure of 'Kharif' crop; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The requirement and availability of DAP for Kharif, 2008 and Rabi' 2008-09 in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar is as under:

Qty. in ('000 MTs)

Season	Uttar Pradesh		Bihar	
	Requirement	Availability	Requirement	Availability
Kharif '08	500.00	723.48	150.00	186.80
Rabi' 08-09 (upto November, 2008)	650.00	568.77	190.00	135.42

(c) and (d) The demand of various fertilizers is assessed by Department of Agriculture & Cooperation in consultation with State Agriculture Department. The Department of Fertilizers (DOF) facilitates availability of decontrolled fertilizers *viz.*, is DAP/MOP/NPK etc. in accordance with assessed requirement. No allocation is given by DOF for decontrolled fertilizers as has been in the case of urea.

Variation in medicine prices leading to exploitation of patients

†1280. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi